

FBIS**DAILY REPORT
CONTENTS***Latin America*

Vol VI No 248

23 December 1980

NOTE: Daily Report No. 250 will not be published on 26 December 1980 because of the holiday declared for U.S. Government employees that date by Executive Order.

CENTRAL AMERICA

EL SALVADOR

Duarte Urges 'Dialogue,' 'Pluralist Participation'	P	1
Colonel Majano Reportedly Joins FDR Ranks	P	3
Young Army Officers May Follow Majano's Lead	P	3
Air Base Attacked; Several Planes Destroyed	P	4
ERP Claims Credit	P	4

NICARAGUA

Government Junta Nationalizes Banana Companies	P	5
Ortega Speaks at Ceremony	P	6
Cruz Predicts Continued Trade Relations With U.S.	P	9
Creation of Municipal Affairs Ministry Announced	P	9

CUBA

Castro Reports on PCC Congress at Mass Rally	Q	1
--	---	---

EL SALVADORDUARTE URGES 'DIALOGUE,' 'PLURALIST PARTICIPATION'

PA230304 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1635 GMT 22 Dec 80

[Speech by Jose Napoleon Duarte at ceremony in which he and Col Jaime Abdul Gutierrez were sworn in as president and vice president of the revolutionary government junta, respectively, place not given--recorded]

[Excerpts] The country's current serious situation stems from a process of many years of frustration and denial of political, economic, and social opportunities. Among many sectors, this has led to a breakdown of the scale of values on which our society had been based, establishing criteria by which human life has ceased to be the fundamental value and by which respect for the dignity of man has given way to a fanatical mysticism advocating revolutionary change and an unscrupulous struggle for the defense of interests, privileges or personal ambitions.

Many of those who chose the path of violence in order to bring about political, economic and social changes, did so out of frustration. We saw them emerge, full of enthusiasm and great ideals, convinced that the path leading to democracy and the achievement of justice for our people was completely closed.

I understand why the voices of frustrated youth rise in protest. I also share the slum dweller's clamor for dignified housing and the peasant's clamor for the land he works. I feel the anguish of the unemployed man trying to get food for his family. It is for this reason, as well as for all the pain that this people are suffering, that I am here. We must all feel this pain, for the pain of our brothers is our own. It is for this reason that I want to make an appeal for peace and for concord that reaches the very bottom of all souls.

The path to pacification implies understanding that radicalization (?stems from) violence and social conflict. However, the logical, rational and humane thing is not to confront each other savagely, but to hold a dialogue so each sector can present its concepts, its reasons, its truth in a civilized manner; so that the people can exercise their sovereign will and decide their fate.

The problems of a people engaged in fratricidal struggle are not resolved by continuing to take up arms against their own brothers. No, Salvadorans. It is necessary to hold a dialogue. To begin this dialogue, all we need is good will and a firm determination to work together in order to find peace. It is time to be great in humility and to admit that we need each other.

Here in El Salvador we are showing that a peaceful solution can be made, which opens to all sectors the right to democratic participation with the support of the armed forces. This revolution seeks to create an authentic democracy and to achieve social justice.

The reform program has clear goals and can guarantee to the Salvadoran people that the reforms already established will continue to follow an order, an ordained plan that guarantees the success of its objectives. In the same manner, I can assure you that just as nobody will make us go back on our convictions about the social imperative, neither will we implement more reforms than necessary.

We revolutionarily advocate the pluralist participation of all sectors that contribute to production and to the country's general development. Included among these rules of the game is the private sector, whose activities must now be even more deeply integrated into the national recovery effort, with an eye to fulfilling the revolution's important social function: a private initiative which without giving up the stimuli characteristic of a free market will adapt to the circumstances of a changing country.

The national problems extend beyond the national border. The world's attention is centered on the development of our crisis. Many interests seek to influence and to intervene in the outcome of our crisis. Our problem is discussed at international political forums, in national congresses and in the international press. Campaigns have been continuously waged in many countries and international organizations. Our struggle has an external front and, under the current circumstances, the handling of international relations implies the need to explain abroad the national political process.

It is evident that our domestic situation, as experienced and felt by the entire Salvadoran people, is different from the oft-repeated versions circulating abroad within a framework of purposeful misinformation. According to these versions, there is a confrontation here between a repressive government and a people defended by the guerrillas. Nothing could be more false. Five million Salvadorans are witnesses to this falsehood. A government that leads the country toward the total fulfillment of the will of the majorities and which constructs for them a more just social order cannot be repressive.

Those sectors that maintain counterrevolutionary and unpopular stands, fighting against violence and terrorism [as heard], must know that they will find a people who will reject them and that they will find a professional and responsible military that will maintain the national integrity. [applause]

One cannot deny that corruption is rooted in certain public administration sectors and also includes the purchasers of privileges who obtain profits and corrupt others through bribery. [applause] We must put a stop to this situation. For this reason, in the certainty that I am faithfully interpreting the people's will, I have instructed all public officials to immediately launch an investigation in order to try those whose crime can be proven and to proceed to immediately dismiss all those who turn out to deserve the loss of their confidence. [applause]

I feel that it is my duty to tell the Salvadoran people that our present economic situation results from multiple factors that, among others, include world inflation, energy shortages and costs, the prices of our products in the face of our exchange relations, our increasing consumption of imports, the flight of capital, the industrial decapitalization, the rising internal costs, the rising demand for goods and services, the weakening of the Common Market and, of course, the destabilization and general fear resulting from terrorism.

Predictions are difficult, but I am firmly convinced that if we all accept the temporary sacrifice of austerity, if we reduce our imports to the merely essential and necessary, if we save and deposit in the banking system, if we work and produce more, better and with less cost in order to reduce the cost of living and expand our markets, if labor-management relations are joined in mutual efforts aimed at guaranteeing and increasing jobs while providing enterprises with capitalization opportunities, then we will be able to overcome our difficulties. With a faith capable of moving mountains, we will reactivate our entire economy so it can serve as the basis for the development of this society where the new man will have the chance for a better destiny.

People of El Salvador, we know that we are not alone with our objectives and that the immense majority of Salvadorans want to put an end to the present state of violence and want to recover peace. But desire alone is not enough. It is necessary for all sectors of the nation to participate actively. They should unite their voices and their actions in such a manner that there will not be the slightest doubt about what the national will is.

COLONEL MAJANO REPORTEDLY JOINS FDR RANKS

PA221414 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 22 Dec 80

[Excerpts] San Salvador--Col Adolfo Majano is joining the ranks of the Revolutionary Democratic Front, (FDR) and will participate in the national liberation government to be established by the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) according to reports from usually reliable sources. His personal protection, according to the same sources, has been entrusted to the Unified Revolutionary Directorate (DRU) and to a group of officers loyal to the ideology of the military movement that inspired the 15 October action.

Colonel Majano was sentenced to death several months ago for his opposition stand.

Other unofficial reports claimed that Commander Cayetano Carpio would participate in the government. The same sources, however, later explained that all the FMLN leadership within the DRU will be engaged in other revolutionary leadership activities.

YOUNG ARMY OFFICERS MAY FOLLOW MAJANO'S LEAD

PA192052 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0229 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Text] Mexico City, 18 Dec (EFE)--Two Salvadoran Army officers disclosed here today that "young officers" in their country are willing to join the Revolutionary Democratic Front(FDR).

In an interview published in by the newspaper UNO MAS UNO, Lt Col Adino Bladimir Cruz and Capt Ricardo Alejandro Fiallos, who fled El Salvador after being threatened with death, said the young Salvadoran officers are opposed to the military high command. They stressed that the young officers would only join the opposition front if Col Adolfo Arnoldo Majano, who is currently being sought by the Salvadoran authorities, also joins the FDR.

"If Colonel Majano agrees to join the FDR we would become part of that group," Cruz and Fiallos said. They reiterated that the young officers are against the senior officers "who are responsible for what is occurring in our country."

According to UNO MAS UNO, Lt Col Adino Bladimir Cruz and Capt Ricardo Alejandro Fiallos expressed support for "a solution negotiated between the people and the armed forces." They also said the FDR's call on the progressive sectors of the army to join the opposition struggle is "politically sound." However, they stressed that they will decide whether to join the front only "when we learn of Colonel Majano's decision."

Fiallos and Cruz indicated that "all the armed forces are not responsible for the repression in El Salvador; it is the senior rightwing command, which removed the young officers who support change and reforms."

UNO MAS UNO added that the officers who have taken refuge in Mexico said the rightwing sector of the Salvadoran Armed Forces "is attacking our comrades in arms, tried to kill Colonel Majano and assassinated Captain Molina Panameno."

According to the paper, the Salvadoran officers charged that the Salvadoran officers meet at the "Sheraton Hotel or the Jardines Del Recuerdo Cemetery with members of the National Anticommunist Front [Frente Anticomunista Nacional--FAN], rightwing terrorist group led by retired Major d'Aubuisson."

The newspaper added that they said other Salvadoran Army officers are participating in repressive actions because "the high command is using the armed forces through the chain of command."

Cruz and Fiallos expressed support for a "new armed force not viewed, as the United States does, as a means to repress the people but dedicated to defending El Salvador's national sovereignty."

Regarding the security forces, such as the national guard and the police, they said that "their actions should be reversed, and instead of repressing the people they should repress the minority sectors and the exploiters."

The officers also told UNO MAS UNO that many of the collaborators of the Salvadoran public security force "are former Nicaraguan Somoquist guardsmen." Fiallos and Cruz recently arrived in Mexico after leaving their country on foot when they were threatened with death.

AIR BASE ATTACKED; SEVERAL PLANES DESTROYED

PA221630 Paris AFP in Spanish 1602 GMT 22 Dec 80

[Text] San Salvador, 22 Dec (AFP)--The installations of the Salvadoran Air Force in the Eastern part of the city were attacked last night by rebel commandos, who lost three of their members in the operation, according to official sources. A shootout between troops and the leftists lasted 2 hours, and when the attackers withdrew they left several bombs which the army exploded on the ground.

Meanwhile, opposition sources reported that the attack on the military installations, next to Ilopango Airport, 10 km east of the capital, was carried out with 105-mm cannons and several planes were destroyed. Another two bombs also exploded last night in the downtown area of the capital, one in a supermarket and another near the national telecommunications office, but they only caused light property damage.

The San Salvador press continued today with reports that U.S. Ambassador Robert White had been called to Washington by the State Department. The morning DIARIO DE HOY reports that although the diplomat is still in San Salvador, once he leaves the country he will not return.

Meanwhile, Col Adolfo Majano, who was purged by the government junta, completed 1 week in hiding without the military authorities or the media finding him. Last week Majano harshly criticized the reorganized government junta now presided over by Christian Democrat Napoleon Duarte. Since then he has left his residence in San Salvador, presumably fearing for his safety.

Majano, who along with Col Abdul Gutierrez directed the October 1979 coup against Gen Humberto Romero, accused the present regime of having gone to the right and of having betrayed the people's aspirations after yielding domination by a few "ambitious traitors." Majano's separation from the governing junta, pressured by the Salvadoran Army's rightist sectors, was also regretted by the Archbishop of San Salvador, who described it as "a hard blow to the aspirations of the Salvadoran progressive sectors."

Finally, opposition sources consider imminent the official announcement of the future "democratic revolutionary government" of El Salvador, whose creation and forthcoming installation in a Latin American country was predicted 4 days ago by the Salvadoran leftist sectors.

ERP Claims Credit

PA222340 San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish 1336 GMT 22 Dec 80

[Text] This morning we received several telephone calls, including one from a person who identified himself as a member of the People's Revolutionary Army [ERP], claiming that this underground organization assumes responsibility for the armed attack last night on the air force installations between 1900 and 2000. The ERP assumed responsibility for last night's attack on the air force installations on Army Boulevard.

NICARAGUAGOVERNMENT JUNTA NATIONALIZES BANANA COMPANIES

PA210203 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1924 GMT 20 Dec 80

[Decree issued by the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction on 16 December 1980 read by Foreign Trade Minister Alejandro Martinez Cuenca--live]

[Text: The junta of the Government of National Reconstruction of the Republic of Nicaragua;

Whereas:

1. The scheme under which the banana development program operates on the Pacific coast makes an adequate and just solution to the labor, social and economic problems in the various banana producing enterprises impossible.
2. For reasons of social interest and national economy closely related to the improvement of living conditions for the banana workers and the stability and financial well-being of the firms with limited responsibility which operate the banana plantations, it is necessary and indispensable to reorganize the banana development program on the Pacific coast through a new system that permits the state to assume the administration and responsibility of the plantations, in order to provide just and adequate solutions to the social, labor and financial problems that the program currently faces and at the same time to give to it the necessary stability in order to guarantee its success and future development.
3. Article 27 of the statute on the rights and guarantees of the Nicaraguans says that any property, whether individually or collectively owned, has a social function, therefore, it can be limited in its title, possession, use and availability because of reasons of security, public interest or use, social interest, national economy, emergency or national disaster or when it is to be used for agrarian reform purposes. Consequently, for reasons of social interest and national economy, it is necessary to establish limitations to the title of banana enterprises and to the use and possession of the lands involved in the banana development program. Therefore, using its powers, the junta **decrees the following law:**

The Law on the Enterprises and Land Involved in the Banana Development Program on the Pacific Coast of Nicaragua:

Chapter 1. Enterprises

Article 1. The banana development program on the Pacific coast of Nicaragua, which now includes the Leon and Chinandega Department, will from now on be operated exclusively by an agency to be created for this purpose, according to the provisions of the law on the agrarian reform enterprises. [applause] Therefore, the agency in question will be the only entity which can operate the banana exploitation commercially for export purposes on the Pacific coast of Nicaragua, [applause] the only entity which can lease land for this purpose or distribute it for the same purpose, can enter into agreements with foreign firms regarding technical assistance, disease control, packing materials, capital, facilities and so forth, which may be necessary for the better handling, administration and operation of the program and the various production units.

Chapter 2. Land involved

Article 2. All land contracts for the planting of bananas which have been signed by the owners of said lands with any persons or concern shall be assigned to the agency which is to be created to develop the banana program on the Pacific coast of Nicaragua. This agency will be considered the leaseholder because it will be the only organization entitled to lease lands for planting bananas.

In keeping with the provisions of article 1 of this law, this regulation also includes the lease contracts within the stipulated period [words indistinct] 1 January 1980, if there are banana plantations on the leased lands.

Article 3. The contracts mentioned in the previous article will last as long as the leased lands are used in the banana development program on the Pacific coast of Nicaragua and are operated by the agency mentioned in article 1 of this law regardless of the stipulated deadline. The referent agency will have the power to decide on the use of land for the program.

Article 4. Any person or concern which becomes a lessor for lucrative or onerous reasons, including mortgagees, even if the contract was made after the mortgage, must abide by land leases made through the contracts mentioned in this law. The foregoing applies even when the required lease has not been duly registered.

Article 5. The provisions of articles 3 and 4 of this law will apply to any future lease contracts entered into by the agency, which will operate the banana development program on the Pacific coast of Nicaragua whenever the lands involved fall under this program.

Article 6. The lessors will keep the ownership and availability of the rented lands, within the limitations established by this law.

Article 7. The lease contracts mentioned in this law will be exempt from the future payment of any existing revenue taxes.

Article 8. The rent and the other necessary regulations for the implementation of this law will be issued separately.

Chapter 3. Final dispositions

Article 9. This law amends any other law [words indistinct] regarding the lease of lands or any other matter regarding [words indistinct] contracts [words indistinct].

Article 10. This law will go into effect when published by any of the means of communications, without affecting its subsequent publication in the official gazette.

Issued in Managua on 16 December 1980, the year of the literacy campaign.

The junta of the Government of National Reconstruction:

[Signed by] Sergio Ramirez Mercado, Moises Hassan Morales, Daniel Ortega Saavedra, Arturo J. Cruz and Rafael Cordova Rivas. [applause]

Ortega Speaks at Ceremony

PA211914 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1924 GMT 20 Dec 80

[Speech by Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra, member of the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, at the ceremony to issue the decree nationalizing the banana companies; place not given--live]

[Text] A meeting of the executive boards of management groups was held in Managua a few days ago. They met in a theater and from there, using the freedoms of speech and assembly granted by the people's democracy, they blatantly revealed their political views and platform. They disclosed the understanding that they have and what they want of a revolutionary change in this country.

At this meeting, as is logical to expect, a moment of silence could not be requested for the literacy workers and the literacy children murdered during the campaign. A moment of silence could not be requested either for the border guards, the soldiers, the militiamen and the government employees who also fell victims of the gunfire of the counterrevolution.

They asked for a minute of silence to honor another businessman who, in a criminal, conspiratorial and counterrevolutionary activity, was killed by the state security apparatus,

They tried at that time and are still trying to confuse certain sectors of our population by mixing up the figure of that counterrevolutionary named Jorge Salazar with those of revolutionary heroes such as Augusto Cesar Sandino. We are dutybound to not let such infamy happen because it is infamous to equate a counterrevolutionary with a revolutionary of the stature of Sandino or a patriot of the stature of Pedro Joaquin Chamorro or a patriot of the stature of Jose Dolores Estrada.

We were saying that we cannot blithely let these things happen. These attitudes are aimed at making a hero out of someone who simply devoted himself to conspiring against our revolution. In final analysis, this reflects the mentality of these employees, the vast majority of whom identified with and were sympathetic to the conspiratorial attitude of Jorge Salazar. They also sympathized with the killing of literacy workers because they opposed the literacy campaign and they weren't ashamed to say so. They also rejoice deep down in their hearts when combatants of the Sandinist People's Army [EPS] and the Sandinist peoples' militias and members of state organizations are killed.

We say that they are brazen because these same groups--and the Sandinists remember this well because at the same time we were suffering the blows of the dictatorship, we felt the blows they dealt us; we also remember well that when we carried out operations to recover funds in 1967 to strengthen the armed action in Pancasan and the work that was being carried out in neighborhoods of Managua, Leon and Chinandega, and the criminal dictatorship would react to this actions by persecuting, torturing and murdering us--would come out in the months of June, July and August of 1967 with communiques against the Sandinist Front, the revolutionary struggle and the armed action. They would come out with tacit and warm support for the criminal dictatorship of the Somoziism.

Now they want to soil the image of Sandino with whom they have been historical enemies. We cannot allow that. We cannot tolerate that. For this reason, although it is not good to make comparisons, we have to say that we are holding another kind of meeting here, not the meeting of employers who met at the Cabrera Theater to speak nonsense against our revolutionary process, but a meeting in which the workers gather here to defend the country, the nation and the revolution. [applause]

This is not the meeting of employers who gathered at the Cabrera Theater to observe a moment of silence for the contrarrevolutionary Jorge Salazar and the praise him. This is a meeting of the workers who in any case observe a minute of silence for the true heroes and martyrs since 19 July 1979. This meeting observes a minute of silence for the slain literacy workers, EPS members, militiamen, state security agents and government employees. It observes a minute of silence for the Sandinist brothers killed in the border area yesterday, the companeros of the state security, the civilian companeros and the Sandinist brothers who were also killed yesterday in the border area with Honduras in Madriz Department. They were two EPS brothers and a brother bank employee. They are the true heroes and the genuine martyrs of the revolution. [applause, people chant: "Power to the people!"]

The employers met at the Cabrera Theater to demand freedom to exploit the workers. They met to demand the right they had in the times under the Somozist dictatorship, which was the right to turn the country over to foreign powers. The workers are meeting here with the revolutionary government and not with the management, or the new management as they say, because the management we all know acts and has acted for its own wealth; that is management. It owns the place where the workers work like donkeys so that [the manager] and his family can keep the money. The state has come here to ensure that the workers will work like donkeys but for their own benefit and for that of their families. [applause]

The employers met to demand the right to have the workers living and sleeping in those miserable dog kennels. They met to claim their right in the name of God and the Blessed Virgin.

The workers meet here with the leaders of the government to end that subhuman condition, that superexploitation, to carry out real justice and to be truly consistent with the true Christians. They met at the theater to claim freedom and rights. However, we all know what kind of freedom and rights they want. They talk about national unity but with advantages for them. They don't want to accept the reality of this revolution. We propose national unity but with advantages for the workers and peasants. [applause]

Nobody is telling them to go but if they are going to stay here let them understand that they will not be allowed to continue exploiting people as they did in the times of the Somoza dictatorship. [applause, shouts]

We have said that the employers, who had the nerve to speak about all the efforts they have made abroad in various Latin American countries and the United States, to defend, they claim, the true democratic project, met there. In other words, they mean their project, the exploiters' project. We all know that they were in other countries simply telling other governments which are helping our revolution and process today not to continue helping Nicaragua. They were urging the reactionary sectors in the United States which don't want to accept the new reality of the Nicaraguan revolution to say let us withdraw all the support being given to the Government of Nicaragua and consequently the people of Nicaragua.

They dare carry out those activities taking advantage of the liberties they claim do not exist. They dare plot against this process because what they are doing is conspiring against our process. Those who will be worst affected when we can no longer get more foreign aid will be the workers and the poor and humble people because the others have money. They have the money to go to Miami or Paraguay where they keep their accounts in dollars. They are exposing us to the danger of an armed attack, but they don't care because those who defend this revolution are basically the workers, peasants, students and the conscientious professionals. They do not participate in the people's militias. They despise them. They will not defend this revolution if it is attacked. On the contrary, they will be waiting for the attack to succeed to recover the power they had in the times of Somoza.

We are concerned about these kinds of attitudes--the attitudes of those who are demagogically demanding unity but are conspiring against it. We have said that the owners who met at the Cabrera Theater were those who have promoted attitudes of capitulation to foreign powers and companies. We have said that the workers gathered here are only defending a right won by the Sandinist revolution on 19 July: the right to be sovereign.

In keeping in line with this right, we must have new sovereign relations with the United States and the companies in that country. Previously, we tolerated foreign governments imposing treaties on us and foreign companies imposed conditions they could not impose in any other country in Latin America. Therefore, we are now exercising the right of be sovereign in this ceremony today where we are establishing new relations in the first place with those who have been owners of this farm. With these new relations we are not denying them the right to subsist and to live comfortably because the state will guarantee their [word indistinct] and their money. [Words indistinct] to the extent that the company will not deal now with the old owners or the owners of these properties but with a state agency, in which all workers will be represented, for the marketing of bananas.

This is the way in which we will finally accomplish this after more than (?) years of exploitation in this place and of producing wealth and millions of dollars and cordobas. The workers will now be able to see some of that wealth and will be able to have some of that wealth. They will now be able to have decent houses, not the dog kennels they have now. They will have adequate working conditions, not what they have now. They will produce more than before because now we know that it will be for their benefit and for the benefit of other workers who are experiencing more difficult conditions and who don't even have jobs. They will produce more to help health and education programs throughout the country.

Consequently, we want to reiterate our awareness of the responsibility that you will have from now on so that production will not drop. The employers claim that as soon as they are out of the picture, production will drop because the workers become lazy and don't work. We trust that the labor discipline will prevail here. Discipline will improve so that we can increase our productivity and truly strengthen the country, the unity of the Nicaraguan workers and the revolutionary process.

Free fatherland ["or death," crowd replies] [applause]

CRUZ PREDICTS CONTINUED TRADE RELATIONS WITH U.S.

PA200345 Managua International Service in Spanish 0030 GMT 20 Dec 80

[Text] We are confident that the U.S. Republican administration will act with responsibility and that the relations of mutual respect which now exist between the two countries will continue, Arturo Cruz, member of the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, said in an interview granted to the NEW NICARAGUA NEWS AGENCY.

The revolutionary government does not believe that any reason will be found for a deterioration of trade relations between the United States and Nicaragua, unless financial repression against the revolution is planned. We are confident that the Republican administration will act responsibly and maintain the relations of mutual respect. He then added that if this important financial source were to be cut off, we are ready to live under our motto that the socioeconomic redemption of our people depends mainly on ourselves, and we are confident that we will find other sources of financing and other markets.

Regarding the country's indebtedness, he explained that it is harmful, for it siphons away foreign currency, and that one of the concerns of the revolutionary government has been the renegotiation of debt in order to adjust it to the country's ability to pay. He said that the terms for the renegotiation of the debt in foreign banks were determined last week in New York. However, the leader said that we must be honest in admitting that we must borrow more abroad in order to implement the national reconstruction programs.

CREATION OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS MINISTRY ANNOUNCED

PA191819 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 18 Dec 80

[Text] Dr Arturo Cruz announced yesterday in Santa Teresa the creation of the Municipal Affairs Ministry. This is the National Reconstruction Government junta's first official announcement regarding a number of important decisions that the Sandinist government will adopt before the New Year.

The main responsibility of the new ministry will be to advise and provide technical and economic aid to all the country's municipal juntas, making the current functions of the secretariat of municipal affairs more dynamic. The secretary of municipal affairs is Companero Rogelio Ramirez Mercado and although Dr Cruz did not announce that he will be the new minister, it is very probable that Ramirez Mercado will be confirmed in that post due to the experience he has obtained in these past 17 months of revolutionary government.

CASTRO REPORTS ON PCC CONGRESS AT MASS RALLY

FL202320 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2207 GMT 20 Dec 80

[Speech by Cuban President Fidel Castro at mass rally held at Havana's Plaza de la Revolution to mark conclusion of Second Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] --live]

[Text] Distinguished guests, dear fellow countrymen:

I will speak more briefly than on other occasions. The basic ideas have been expressed during the congress and I do not want to repeat them. It is already becoming a tradition for our congress--the congress of our Communist Party--to come to a close in the Plaza de la Revolution and in the midst of our communist people. [applause] This is the third time that we have gotten together this year in this plaza.

I think that this year, 1980, has been the most extraordinary in terms of the mass movement in our capital. It is impossible to forget the glorious marches of the combative people. It is impossible to forget what the people of our capital and of the Province of Havana have done for the revolution: 19 April, 1 May, 17 May, 27 September and today.

I remember that when we thought about those events it seemed impossible to us that they would be repeated. It seemed impossible to us that the multitude which gathered together on Fifth Avenue on 19 April would gather together again at another time. And it was not long thereafter that we saw here in this same square a similar multitude. But it was always thought that an event such as the one on 1 May would not be repeated. And yet we had the opportunity to see this crowd once again on 19 May. We had the opportunity to see it again on 27 September, and we have had the opportunity to see it gathered together here again at the Plaza de la Revolution. [applause]

It is necessary to recognize and to thank the people of the two Havanas for this gigantic and extraordinary support of the revolution and the party. [applause] And you have shown today, in deeds, what we said at the congress about the firm, deep and indestructible ties between our party and the masses. [prolonged applause] This therefore confirms the great truth that the party is the party of our people and that our party exists for the people and by the people. [applause]

Our congress has analyzed the basic problems in depth. But I would say, as we were saying this afternoon, that the fundamental aspect of our congress was its internationalist character. [applause] It could be said that the revolutionary, progressive and democratic forces of the world have been gathered together here at our congress, so that at times we could not distinguish--or at times it was difficult to distinguish--whether it was a Cuban congress or a congress of the world's revolutionary forces. [applause]

More guests than Cuban delegates spoke at our congress [applause] and of course not all the guests spoke because it was absolutely impossible. But those who did speak conveyed a message to our people and to our party from the fundamental forces which today are changing the world. [applause] And those who spoke reflected the changes, especially the changes in our hemisphere because we were able to hear there the message, the warm, fraternal and solidary words of Nicaragua in the voice of Comrade Humberto Ortega, known, admired and loved by our people [applause] as one of the essential creators and strategists of the victorious struggle of the Nicaraguan people. [applause]

We heard Cayetano Carpio, that consummate hero who has devoted his whole life to the cause of the liberation of his people, the Salvadoran people. [applause] He brought us the message from all the unified revolutionary organizations of El Salvador.

We heard the words of this brilliant, firm, upstanding friend--our dear Brother Bishop. [applause] We heard the message from the Chilean revolutionaries in the voice of that old fighter, so esteemed in our country--he himself was the victim of fascist repression--the secretary of the Communist Party of Chile, Luis Corvalan. [applause] He conveyed to us his people's will to struggle with words that bring his national anthem to mind: Might must accompany right. [applause]

We heard with deep emotion--and we should also confess with tears like his own--that highly esteemed and admired friend, that extraordinary man who for many years was, along with his people, the standard bearer of solidarity with our revolution--Rodney Arismendi. [applause] We have heard the message of our Angolan brothers, our Mozambican brothers, our Ethiopian brothers, our Guinean brothers [applause], our African brothers. [applause] We have heard the message of our Vietnamese, Kampuchean, and Lao brothers, [applause] our Afghan brothers, [applause] our Arab brothers, [applause] our French and Portuguese communist brothers. [applause]

We heard expressed the most consistent positions and thoughts of the revolutionary labor movement in capitalist countries. [applause] We have heard the message of our beloved brothers of the socialist camp [applause] and very especially, of our dear and inseparable Soviet Union. [applause]

And we had the pleasure of hearing in the words of that untiring man, that hero of the cause of communism, (Henry Winston), [applause] the message of the purest and most honest of the U.S. people. [applause]

Those who have gathered here represent the healthiest, the purest and the most consistent of the fighters for the cause of liberation, democracy, social justice and peace. [applause]

That is why we have felt extraordinarily encouraged at this congress. And also because it gives a measure of the prestige of our country, of the prestige of our revolution, of the confidence which the world's revolutionary and progressive forces have in the revolution, and because it also gives us a measure of the effort which our homeland has been contributing to the revolutionary movement and to international solidarity in a tenacious and heroic manner. [applause]

Our country has gained much prestige over these years. However, we do not struggle to gain prestige. [applause] The prestige of our revolution is derived from our loyalty to principles. [applause] And more important than this prestige is the confidence which the revolutionaries of the entire world should have that Cuba will never fail, [prolonged applause] that the revolution's loyalty to the immortal principles of Marxism-Leninism is not only the line of this generation, but will also be the line of the organization of Pioneers whose representative spoke here this afternoon [applause] and the line of future revolutionary generations. [applause]

Our congress did not concern itself exclusively with international issues; our congress also concerned itself with national issues. The congress was the culmination of a long period of work over many months in which our problems were analyzed in their most minute detail, with a critical and self-critical spirit, from our party cells to the party congress. [applause]

The fundamental problems were examined. Our work over the past 5 years was reviewed, and this work has had an unquestionably positive result. It is truly incredible what our people have done in such a brief period of time in all areas. [applause] The advances made in the building of socialism, in the development of our economy, the number of factories we have built in the midst of the international economic crisis, the extraordinary advances we have achieved in education, public health, culture, social development, institutionalization of the country, establishment of people's government, development of socialist democracy; and, above all, the advances we have achieved in our mass organizations, in our youth and in our party. [applause]

It must be kept in mind that our party has almost tripled its members who are workers. This means that our party has become more proletarian and, therefore, more Marxist-Leninist and more revolutionary. [applause]

Our party had worked on the drafting of future plans and, thus, our congress examined and approved the economic guidelines and the 1981-85 5-year plan. [applause] It was a plan that was drawn up carefully and prudently, and on very realistic foundations. Therefore, we have the hope of not only fulfilling the plan, but of overfulfilling it as well. [applause] Our party examined and approved the basic ideas for the country's future development until the year 2000. We can already have the luxury of thinking not only in terms of 1 year, not only in terms of 5 years, but also in terms of 20 years; [applause] based on the realistic factors and elements of certainty we get from our close economic relations and our coordination plans for economic development with the Soviet Union and the socialist countries. [applause]

Therefore, so far as our country's economic development is concerned, we can look to the future with more confidence and more certainty than ever. [applause]

However, the most important thing and the most revolutionary thing about this congress was the composition of our Central Committee. [applause] As a result, the leadership of our party received a strong injection of labor cadres, [applause] a strong injection of women, [applause] and a strong injection of internationalist combatants. [applause] Therefore, our masses are represented in the Central Committee, not only indirectly through the party, but also through communist militants who direct the mass organization, representatives of our peasant organization and of our largest organization--the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution--also are represented. [applause]

Therefore, an organic link between the party and the masses has been created at this congress. Furthermore, the principle has been established that any communist militant wherever he may be, man or woman, in Cuba or outside Cuba, doing productive work or administrative work or scientific work or any activity, will not be forgotten by the party; [applause] and that to reach the top leadership of our party, this extraordinary honor and this extremely high responsibility can be earned cutting sugarcane, [applause] can be earned working in a mine, can be earned in a laboratory, can be earned administering a factory or a farm or a trade union or a province or a mass organization at the national or provincial level.

We believe that our Central Committee has been extraordinarily enriched by the presence of new members who are closely linked to the masses. [applause]

Our party has grown extraordinarily. Today it has 450,000 members and alternate members. The party is no longer a group of organizations. No one remembers any longer from which organization it originated. Our party is already made up of a single, solid trunk. Our party is already something new. It is a party which has developed in the course of these 22 years. It is no longer just a matter of the history of the war, of the prewar era or of clandestinity. Now it is also a matter of the history which new generations have written, the heroic history of our people during these 22 years of struggle. [applause]

This is already reflected in the leadership of our party. This leadership includes men who were in the sierra, who were involved in the struggle against bandits, who were in the October crisis and who also fought in Angola and in Ethiopia. [applause] The fact that through our FAR, more than 100,000 combatants have fulfilled internationalist missions is truly extraordinary. [applause]

For this reason our Central Committee can today introduce a legion of heroes, heroes of the revolutionary struggle in our country, heroes of internationalism, heroes of work--be it physical or intellectual work--heroes of party work. This is a group of men and women who have garnered extraordinary merits.

The principles which have been followed within the Central Committee have also been followed in the election of the Politburo. [applause] Thus, Comrade Vilma Espin has been elected an alternate member of the Politburo. [applause] Comrade Roberto Veiga has been elected. [applause] Comrade Jose Ramirez Cruz has been elected, [applause] and Comrade Armando Acosta has been elected. [applause] Therefore, women, workers, peasants and the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution are directly represented in our party's Politburo, [applause] so that in our opinion this represents extraordinary progress which will increase the efficiency and the quality of the work of the leadership of the party and of the country.

Now then, we believe that one of the basic tasks accomplished by the congress was that of getting the party and the people ready for the difficult international situation we are experiencing; that of getting the party and the people ready for any confrontation with imperialism that might arise. [applause] Of course, we have clearly said to Mr Reagan that we are not in the least afraid of his threats, [applause] because of course, there is one thing we do not like: We do not like to be threatened. [applause] We do not like for people to try to intimidate us. We do not like that. Furthermore, our people forgot what fear is a long time ago. [applause] Our people [indistinct chanting] have not tasted fear for a long time.

We are aware that the international situation is complex and difficult. We are aware that the threats of war are real. We are also aware of the need to fight and mobilize world opinion to curb the arms race, to curb international tension, to curb the dangers of war. We can contribute to this objective to the extent that our modest forces allow us.

We know the world we live in. As we said in the main report, the human race has never experienced an era like this one, with the existence of huge nuclear arsenals, with tens of thousands of nuclear weapons pointing in all directions. We know that the danger of a possible universal conflict is great, but we believe that this human race, especially our people, should be aware of this danger in order to mobilize, to fight against it, each to the extent of his possibilities. But in the face of this reality we must take a stance.

Several dangers threaten us. Of course, if there is a world conflict it would affect all nations without exception. But since we are also situated in this area of the world, since we are located near the United States, in addition to the dangers of any world conflict, we are constantly threatened by imperialist aggression.

In view of this reality, we must take a stance. The imperialists sometimes declare arrogantly that they would be willing to lift the blockade, that they would be willing to spare our lives if we stop being internationalists, if we withdraw our troops from Angola and Ethiopia, [shouts of "No!"] if, [shouts of "Cuba si, Yankees no!"] if we break our close ties with the Soviet Union. [shouts of "No!"]

And of course having thousands of combatants in other countries is not a pleasure or a whim for us. The day we withdraw a single man, a single man, that will be the day when he is no longer needed, or else it will be by agreement between those governments and our own. [applause] As long as the Soviet Union exists and as long as Cuba exists, those ties will exist. [applause] because we are a revolutionary people, because we are a consistent people, because we are firm people, a loyal people and a grateful people. Because we despise opportunism. [applause] And if one day we were told to choose between betrayal and death, we would choose death a thousand times. [applause]

Principles are not negotiable. There are people in the world who compromise their principles [indistinct shouts] but Cuba will never compromise its principles [applause] and we are certain that neither this nor future revolutionary generations will ever compromise their principles. [applause] What right does the United States have to tell us who our friends should be?

They are threatening us with maintaining their economic blockade. Let them maintain it for 100 years if they want. [applause] We are willing to withstand it for 100 years, if imperialism lasts 100 years. [applause] They are threatening us with naval and military blockades. Let them impose their blockade and they will see what the Cuban people are capable of withstanding. [applause]

If this gigantic crowd has to disperse throughout the country and cultivate the land in order to live, if we have to cultivate it with oxen and plows and with hoes and pickaxes, we would cultivate it, [applause], but we would last. If they think that we are going to surrender because we lack electricity or buses or oil, or whatever, they will see that they will never be able to subjugate us, and that we are capable of lasting 1 year, 10 years, or as long as necessary, even if we have to live like the Indians that Columbus found when he arrived here 500 years ago. [lengthy applause]

However, we would not have bows or arrows, but a rifle, or a grenade or a mine in hand, or a tank or a cannon or a bazooka or an anti-aircraft gun, or whatever. Let the imperialists not delude themselves. They should be told. Let them not delude themselves. [applause] Let them not threaten us and if they should choose to attack us, let them prepare to see men, women, the aged and even the children, even the little Pioneer who spoke here today in the fight. [lengthy applause] If they dare invade our country, more Yankees will die here than died in the Second World War, because we will not stop struggling and fighting under any circumstance--in the front, in the rear guard, from the underground. We will not stop fighting as long as we still have a drop of blood left. [applause]

That should be our attitude and that is indeed our attitude. But of course, we will see what happens. We will see what happens. We do not lack arms [brazos], nor are we without weapons. If they wish to save themselves a lot of work and they wish to drop 20 atomic bombs on us, let them do so. Let them drop them. Once before we faced the risk of having them dropped on us. I do not recall that any citizen of this country lost sleep over it. I do not recall that. [applause]

Without melodrama of any kind, without melodrama, we would prefer to die a thousand times rather than to surrender. [applause] We will not make a single concession to imperialism. We will not give up a single one of our principles. The peoples in today's world are not that weak and I believe that the day in which all the people of Latin America are in the same position that Cuba is in to defend their land and cause--the position of Nicaragua [applause] or Grenada [applause]--then imperialist domination will disappear from this hemisphere.

We could add more: in the position of the Salvadoran revolutionaries, [applause] in the position of the Guatemalan revolutionaries. [applause] The imperialists are threatening to interfere in Central America as if with that they could intimidate the Central American revolutionaries. The revolutionaries of El Salvador and Guatemala have been fighting for 20 years and have been doing so clandestinely for 20 years and it would be easier for them to fight against the Yankee interventionist than against the henchmen who, in the service of the Yankees, are still using a uniform, a flag and a national anthem.

Humberto [Ortega] spoke here of Sandino. Those were other times and there was not the correlation of forces that exists today. There did not exist the powerful international revolutionary movement that [words indistinct] they had to withdraw [applause] and leave Somoza and the national guard there until the end also came for Somoza and the national guard, as the end will come to all the Somozas of this hemisphere and to all their minions in this hemisphere. [applause]

Therefore, the conclusions that we can draw from this congress---there are two main ones---are twofold. One of them is work, the effort to promote production and services. I said there are two and we must be able to fulfill both.

We must tackle the problems we have. We must dedicate ourselves to work and to service in agriculture, the industries, the schools, the hospitals and all the activities. We must increase our efforts. We must double our efforts. We must increase our efficiency and our demands. In other words, I would say [we must] work more and better than ever. [applause]

Secondly, we must prepare ourselves for the defense of the country. This means that these are the two basic tasks: production and defense. [applause]

We must organize the territorial troop militias and prepare the party and the people to fight under any circumstance. [applause] We must support the proposal of the militiaman who spoke on behalf of the regiment of the Pinar del Rio territorial militias. [applause] and we must use our time well so as to not affect our economy. We must use our free time and even part of our vacation time to participate in the training program. [applause]

One thing should not clash with other. The productive work, the services and the preparation for defense must not clash. We must prepare ourselves; there is no doubt about this. This is what we must rely on, and not in the wisdom and good judgment of the enemy. We must rely on our force. This is why now more than ever we must become a nation of workers and soldiers. [applause]

Right now we are in the middle of the sugarcane harvest and it is proceeding well. The accumulated figure so far is 88 percent. We did not reach 88 percent during any day in December of last year. The sugar industry workers and the sugarcane workers are working with great enthusiasm. I feel that they are showing the present spirit of struggle and work that characterizes this country.

Now when we return to our activities and when all the delegates of the congress return, they must take with them the idea and the watchword to support the productive work, the services, the sugar harvest and the tasks of defense. We will not ask ourselves if the Yankees are going to spare our lives or not. What we must be concerned about is preparing ourselves for the struggle. And let them know, as we said in the congress, that they will find themselves with a hard nut to crack and a fishbone in their throats. [applause] These are the two basic ideas which we must derive from the congress.

Companeros delegates to the congress and compatriots, we truly have many reasons to feel satisfied and even proud of what this congress has been, of what our party is today, of the quality of our party, and the quality of the men and women who represent it. We are proud of this proof of the link between the party and the masses, of the people's support for the revolution and of the support of our people for our party, which you have witnessed today before the representatives of more than 140 revolutionary, progressive and democratic organizations of the world which are present here. [applause]

I think that I express the feelings of all the companeros of the Central Committee and the Politburo when I say that today we, who have always trusted the people, feel even greater trust than ever before. [applause] Today we, who have always been committed to the revolution, feel more committed than ever before. [applause]

Long live our glorious Communist Party! [crowd responds: "Viva!"]
Long live the proletarian internationalism! [crowd responds: "Viva!"]
Long live the people! [crowd responds: "Viva!"]
Fatherland or death: [crowd replies: "We shall overcome!"] [applause]